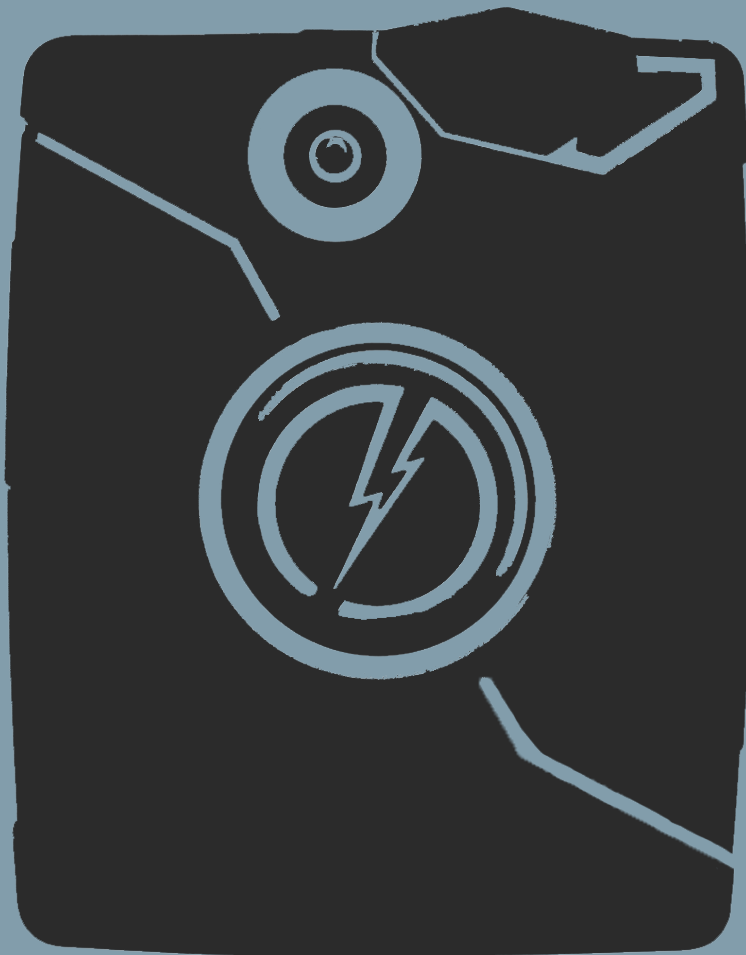




# Minneapolis Police Department Body Camera Program



## OVERVIEW

# POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

## Features of the BWC Policy



- **Policy Purpose:** The Purpose statement of the policy was revised to set out the policy's goal: "enhancing accountability and public trust;" this is also the top message of the policy purpose: to "[e]nhance accountability and public trust by preserving evidence of officer interaction with citizens."
- **Prohibits Using BWCs to Intimidate:** Policy section starts with affirmative statement that BWC's "shall not be used for the purpose of intimidating or discouraging an individual from observing police activity, making appropriate inquiries to the police or making a complaint."
- **Consequences for Violating Policy:** Employees who violate the BWC policy or applicable laws "will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination."
- **Officer Responsibilities:**
  - o Wear equipment while on shift – including off-duty assignments
  - o Make sure it is functioning properly at the start of each shift
  - o Remove themselves from service if there is a loss of battery power during a shift so that the BWC can be recharged
  - o Officers are encouraged to inform members of the public that they are being recorded when feasible and, when asked, should inform those who inquire when they are being recorded
- **Officers are Required to Activate a BWC:**
  - o Traffic stops
  - o Suspicious Person and Vehicle stops
  - o Any search – vehicles, persons, buildings
  - o Use of Force
  - o Any contact that involves criminal activity, physical or verbal confrontations or is otherwise adversarial
  - o Advising of Miranda rights
  - o See policy for additional circumstances

### — **Deactivation of a BWC:**

- o Once activated, the BWC must be left in record mode until the end of the event or such time as the role of the officer is such that it is unlikely any event will occur that is required to be recorded; e.g., the officer's role is merely to protect an accident scene or monitor a traffic post.
- o The officer must record the reason for deactivating a BWC by narration and include the reason in any police report or by added remarks in the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system if no report is written.

— **Critical Incidents Involving Deadly Force by or Against a Police Officer or that Result in Great Bodily Harm or Death:** Officers involved in Critical Incidents will NOT be allowed to view BWC video unless and only if approved by the assigned investigating agency.

— **No Ability to Alter or Destroy:** Officers may not interfere with audio or video recording capabilities or alter, duplicate, delete or destroy BWC recordings. The only exception is for certain, authorized personnel to duplicate recordings for legitimate reasons, such as for evidence in a case; to redact or blur images as required by the Data Practices Act or other laws (the original video is maintained in unaltered form); and to delete BWC video as required by the Data Practices Act, other statutes and the City's data retention schedule.

— **Policy Review and Audit:** BWC program will be independently audited for compliance with legal requirements and the program and policy will be reviewed periodically and modified based on input.



## Resources Studied: MPD's Body Camera Policy



- Seattle Police Department BWC Policy
- New Orleans Police Department BWC Policy
- Phoenix Police Department BWC Policy
- San Diego Police Department BWC Policy
- Salt Lake City Police Department BWC Policy
- Louisville Police Department BWC Policy
- Los Angeles Police Department BWC Policy
- New York City Police Department BWC Policy
- Milwaukee Police Department BWC Policy
- Tampa Police Department BWC Policy
- Las Vegas Police Department BWC Policy
- Chicago Police Department BWC Policy
- DC Metro Police Department BWC Policy
- Cleveland Police Department BWC Policy
- Daytona Beach Police Department BWC Policy
- Duluth Police Department BWC Policy
- Burnsville Police Department BWC Policy
- International Chiefs of Police Association Model Policy
- DOJ/Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) Model Policy
- International Municipal Lawyers Associations Model Policy
- ACLU Model Policy
- League of Minnesota Cities Model Policy
- Fraternal Order of Police Model Policy

It should also be noted the current MPD policy was drafted to conform to requirements mandated by the US Department of Justice Body Camera Grant



# Minneapolis Police Department Body Camera Pilot Program



Body Camera Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)  
publicly posted November 2014

SOP based upon MPD's squad video policy and other  
existing policies, including those from Duluth and  
Burnsville's Police Departments

Pilot ran between November 2014 and May of 2015

36

officers  
participated from  
the Department's  
1st, 4th and 5th  
Precincts

2

cameras tested  
-Taser (2 models)  
-VieVu

more than  
7,000

BWC videos  
captured by  
officers



# Minneapolis Police Department Body Camera Timeline



- December 2012:** Chief Janeé Harteau sworn in as MPD's 52nd Police Chief, immediately beginning the study of Body Worn Cameras (BWC).
- January 2014:** Mayor Hodges sworn in on pledge to equip all MPD officers with BWCs
- April 2014:** MPD issues Request for Proposal (RFP) for test and evaluation.
- May 2014:** MPD receives 10 responses to RFP. MPD selects two vendors who meet desired criteria for testing and evaluation.
- September 2014:** Minneapolis City Council approves pilot program for Body Worn Cameras.
- November 2014:** MPD begins pilot program with 36 officers from 3 precincts wearing BWCs for testing and evaluation.
- November 2014:** MPD posts Standard Operating Procedure online.
- December 2014:** City Council passes Mayor Hodges' budget proposal for \$570,000 to acquire BWCs, and \$100,000 for a position to implement them.
- May 2015:** MPD concludes evidence gathering portion of pilot program.
- June 2015:** Mayor Hodges & Chef Harteau request Police Conduct Oversight Commission (PCOC) policy research & community input.
- June 2015:** MPD applies for U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance grant for BWC implementation.
- July 2015:** Two different presentations to City Council's Public Safety Committee about BWC program.
- September 2015:** PCOC submits policy research study to MPD following community listening sessions.
- September 2015:** Minneapolis awarded \$600,000 DOJ grant for BWC implementation.
- October 2015:** Minneapolis City Council accepts DOJ grant for BWC implementation.



**December 2015:** City Council passes Mayor Hodges' budget proposal for \$400,000 to acquire BWCs, and \$173,000 for two positions to implement BWC's.

**February 2016:** Minneapolis City Council approves five year contract with Taser International for BWC program equipment and software.

**March 2016:** MPD posts preliminary draft of BWC policy online.

**April 2016:** Conference call with The Leadership Council on Civil & Human Rights and Upturn for policy recommendations (the Council and Upturn created the BWC Policy scorecard).

**April 2016:** Update to Public Safety Committee on community-engagement regarding BWC policy.

**May 2016:** BWC Equipment purchased and delivered to MPD.

**June 2016:** Deputy Chief Arradondo updates City Council Public Safety Committee on final BWC policy.

**June 2016:** Chief Harteau updates PCOC on final BWC policy.

**June 2016:** Update to Public Safety Committee on BWC program and public comments on policy.

**July 2016:** MPD rolls out BWCs in Precincts 1 & 4.

**August 2016:** MPD rolls BWCs in the 3rd Precinct.

**September 2016:** MPD rolls out BWCs in the 2nd Precinct.

**October 2016:** MPD rolls out BWCs in the 5th Precinct.



# Public Meetings and Hearings Regarding MPD's Body Camera Program



## Police Conduct Oversight Commission Community Meetings

- o June 27th, 2015
- o July 11th, 2015
- o July 25th, 2015
- o May 14th, 2016

## Minneapolis Department of Neighborhood and Community Relations Meetings, March and April of 2016

- o Minneapolis Urban League – 37 participants
- o Waite House – 75 participants
- o Phillips Community Center – 38 participants
- o Lao Assistance Center – 22 participants
- o All Nations Church – 51 participants
- o East Side Neighborhood Services – 18 participants



Chief Janeé Harteau, Deputy Chief Medaria Arradondo and Deputy Chief Travis Glampe also attended numerous public City Council Meetings (Public Safety Committee and Ways and Means Committee) and Police Conduct Oversight Commission Meetings.